

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

1-2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) A crawler traveling apparatus, which comprises:  
a track frame,  
an idler recoiled by a spring of a spring box arranged on ~~at a front end of~~  
the track frame,  
a sprocket arranged at a rear end of the track frame, and  
a crawler winding around the idler and sprocket, and  
the idler being supported ~~secured to the track frame~~ by an idler shaft of  
an idler guide unit, and  
the idler guide unit including an upper plate arranged on the track frame  
and a lower guide plate ~~plates~~ arranged on the idler guide unit, and ~~means for~~  
~~maintaining a clearance between the upper and lower guide plates, the means~~  
~~including~~ a tapering block moving over the track frame for maintaining or  
adjusting a clear space between the upper and lower guide plates ~~arranged to~~  
~~adjust the clearance between the upper and lower guide plates.~~

4. (previously presented) The crawler traveling apparatus according to  
claim 3, further including a position regulator for adjusting the position of the  
tapering block relative to the upper and lower guide plates.

5. (previously presented) The crawler traveling apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the position regulator includes a grease cylinder.

6. (currently amended) The crawler traveling apparatus according to claim 3, further including means for regulating a ~~width-clearance~~ widthwise clear space between ~~the idler~~ a side guide plate arranged on the track frame and a side guide plate secured on the idler guide unit by use of a shim selected from a group of shims of varying thicknesses.

7. (currently amended) In combination, a track frame of a crawler traveling apparatus, an idler and an idler guide unit ~~secured to the track frame~~, the idler guide unit ~~comprising~~ including an upper guide plate arranged on the track frame, a lower guide plate secured on the idler guide unit, a clear space arranged between the upper and lower guide plates, and a tapering block arranged between the idler guide unit and the track frame, the tapering block moving relative to the track frame for maintaining and adjusting a clearance ~~the clear space~~ between the upper and lower guide plates ~~idler guide unit and the track frame~~.

8. (previously presented) The combination according to claim 7,  
including a position regulator for moving the tapering block.